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Ministerial Association Plans Transitory Housing for Parsons



Susan Metzner addresses the Parsons City Council February 18th on the Ministerial Association's plans to place a tiny house in Parsons as transitory housing for those stranded in the town temporarily.

By: Lydia Crawley The Parsons Advocate

Susan Metzner of the Tucker County Ministerial Association addressed the City of Parsons Council February 18th on the Associations plans to place a donated tiny home in the City as transitory housing. "...to come together to provide a warm place in extreme weather or difficulties with people passing through town," Metzner

Besides the housing, the Association would also be providing individuals with food assistance and contact with family or friends, Metzner said. "Something that can give them a location that they can leave in a couple of days to transition that way," Metzner said.

The building has been donated by Paul Walmsley of St. George Clinic, according to Metzner and will outfit the building to suit the needs of the Association. "Paul Walmsley from St. George Clinic, Paul is going to donate the little house and he is going to put a bathroom in it with a shower and we'd have room for a comfortable bed and just something small in like a kitchen area," Metzner said. "Not necessarily a kitchen. We could do a small freezer with like frozen dinners in it and lunches and breakfasts, a microwave and a coffee pot and water."

Metzner said she was at the meeting to seek the City's aid in obtaining a lot to place the tiny home on. "What we're looking for is to see if the City would be able to or to find a lot that we could put the little house on," Metner said.

The building will be portable in the event of flooding or other severe weather event, Metzer said. "The Ministerial said if we could get a lot to set it on and make it kind of portable so that in the event of a bad flood or something like that, it could be pulled away," Metner said.

Metzner said the Association was seeking the City's interest and input on the matter. "We just wanted to see if the City Council had any kind of interest in going together with us on this," Metzner

According to Metzner, the Association would cover the operational costs of the building. "We are going to need water and electric, of course," Metzner said. "The Ministerial will do some extra things. We can pay for the water and the electric and do that aspect of it. Plus any needs that someone would have. We can come together with the churches, our churches on that."

There was a question insurance, however, that Metzner raised, but was not addressed by the

City of Parsons PD to **Place LPR Camera**

By: Lydia Crawley The Parsons Advocate

The City of Parsons will soon have its first License Plate Reader Camera in place. City of Parsons Police Chief Kevin Keplinger informed the City of Parsons Council of the development February 18th. "Talked with...Brooks Police Supply today, actually it was yesterday, we are moving ahead with the license plate reader camera system," Keplinger said.

The camera system will be funded through Federal Congressionally Directed Spending, according to Keplinger and has been pending budget approval by the government. "We did get Congressionally Directed Spending, it was approved clear up until the budget and we are waiting on the federal budget last year to finally be approved to finally get the funding," Keplinger

Keplinger said that Brooks Police Supply would be sending the City a test camera in the next week or so to place within the City. "We are going to be receiving one test LPR camera," Keplinger said. "Should have it in the next week or two."

Keplinger said he is currently looking at areas to place the camera. "I'm looking at some areas to set it up in," Keplinger said.

Keplinger said he and City Administrator Michael Simmons would need to get together to discuss options for placement of the test unit as it requires electrical access. "I need a utility pole with A/C power access," Keplinger said.

As part of the process, Keplinger said he went to Elkins to confirm that the test system would communicate and would be compatible with other area agencies. "I went to Elkins today just to confirm with Elkins PD, it is the exact same system, the exact same network that Elkins is running, that Philippi is running, Buckhannon's running, so we will be able to network," Keplinger said.

Keplinger said that he is excited about the sharing of information the system will afford the City because as other area agencies collect data, they will communicate with Parsons and Parsons will communicate their data with other area entities. "So as they gather and collect vehicle information, it comes here, as we collect, it will go," Keplinger said. "So we're supporting each other. I'm kind of excited about that."

Highlands Trail Foundation Requests Funding

By: Lydia Crawley The Parsons Advocate

President and founder of the Highlands Trail Foundation Karen Carper addressed the City of Parsons Council February 18th. Carper updated the Council on the latest developments with the Foundation and requested a donation to assist with a grant match for a federal grant for the trail

Carper thanked the Council for the City's commitment and support to the Foundation over the past 30 years. "We really appreciate you're always stepping up whenever we ask," Carper said. "We have events, you send out volunteers, emergency services helps us out. We have help with parking and we've also had sponsorship from Council. So I can't neglect to say thank you for all of the support we've gotten for all of the years that we've been around. And I'm here to ask again."

Carper informed the Council that the Foundation had received a grant through the Division of Highways for the trail system. "We have received a grant," Carper said. "I applied for a Recreational Trails Grant from the Division of Highways. That's a program that, every state has one, it supports trails through federal highway funding."

The grant, according to Carper, was for \$250,000 with a \$50,000 grant match. "I called and checked today and the money is still there," Carper said. "So we got a \$250,000 grant. We are responsible for \$50,000 of that."

The grant match, Carper said, the Foundation needed to come up with up front in order to receive the grant and explained how the grant process worked for the particular grant the Foundation qualified for. "And because we are a small organization, we can't do a pay as you go kind of a grant," Carper said. "So the way it works is, we have to have our \$50,000 match up front. Before we sign the agreement, he hand over our \$50,000 and they set up an account in escrow and they keep the whole \$250,000 and they pay the invoices as we

The grant, according to Carper, was awarded in December and once paperwork is signed, the Foundation has two years to spend the money. "It was awarded in December," Carper said. "So its 2024 money. And we have two years to spend it once we sign the agreement. We agreed in the application that we would spend it by 2026. I'm sure you can extend it if you

The grant is slated to fund work on the oldest part of the trail from Elkins to Parsons, Carper said. "The project is on the oldest part of Allegheny Highlands Trail, which is from Elkins to...Parsons," Carper said. "A lot of it is maintenance. There has been such different maintenance on this trail for so long."

There had been work started and completed in Tucker County under a previous grant, according to Carper. The previous grant saw the installation of new bollards and paving along the trail, Carper said. This new grant will also see some refurbishing, according to Carper. "Some of it has already been done here in the Tucker County area," Carper said. "If you noticed paving that was done, that was the last grant that we had. They did some paving and they put in some new yellow folding bollards. So they don't come out and they don't have those receivers that stick out of the ground. They stay put. Which is what we are going to put on the whole trail, all

the way into Elkins with this grant project" Carper said the initial Parsons project was going to be a new kiosk at the railroad bridge, but with the placement of one there already, she is open to hearing what the City would like to see. One project that was discussed was the development at Corricks Ford Battlefield. "What we discussed briefly was some of the development that you are doing down near where Corricks Ford is. Maybe we could put a kiosk or some structure there that would improve and contribute to your development in that area," Carper said. "I would totally be open to discussing how we could adjust our grant project to provide something for the City of Parsons. We certainly want to include you in the project."

Carper said she was in need of funding that would help leverage other organizations into giving, as well. According to Carper, every funding body she approaches wants to know what other entities have given or who else she has approached. "What I need is some funding that I can help leverage some more funding," Carper said. "Because everybody I have asked has said, well what have you gotten from



Karen Carper, President and founder of the Highlands Trail Foundation, addresses the City of Parsons Council February 18th. Carper approached the Council requesting a donation towards a grant match for a federal grant for the trail system.

them? What are you getting from them? And I am going to see the Tucker County Commission in a couple of weeks and they are going to want to know."

Carper said she had already received funding from the Convention and Visitors Bureau in both Tucker and Randolph Counties and from the City of Elkins for the grant match. "Fortunately, I did get some funding from the CVB," Carper said. "So I have funds from the CVB, both in Tucker County and Randolph County. I have some funding from the City of Elkins."

One of her next stops besides the Tucker County Commission will be the Randolph County Commission, Carper said. "I'm hoping to go to the Commission, the Randolph County Commission," Carper said.

Carper said she is trying to raise \$25,000 of the \$50,000, as her foundation has half of the grant match currently. "If I can pull it all together, Highlands Trail Foundation can probably cough up \$20, 25,000 from what we have in our account and will not quite wipe us out, but close," Carper said. "I'm trying to get a match to match our match, if you understand what I'm say-

Carper said she hopes to accomplish raising the funds through gifts of \$5,000 from multiple entities. "If I could cobble together these \$5,000 gifts and put together with what we have, then I think

we can write a check for \$50,000," Carper Carper said she did not need the money

immediately and would be happy with a

pledge for now and would invoice for the money when it was needed for the grant match at signing. "When I spoke with the grants person today, she said it wasn't going to be right away," Carper said. "I would be happy with a pledge if this isn't a great time for you. If the council would be able to pledge \$5,000, I could invoice it when we need it. Whatever works for

City Recorder Richard Lemons suggested that Carper reached out and contact the construction companies working on Corridor H in the area of the Allegheny Highlands Trail like Kokosing, specifically was mentioned. Carper said she had not thought to reach out to them, but would be contacting not only Kokosing, but other construction firms in the area as well about donating. "They tore up pretty bit sections of the trail out there," Lemons said. "So, you might be able to get some money out of them and get them a plaque out there saying donated by Corridor H construction Kokosing."

The Council agreed to put the issue on the Harman Draw in the upcoming weeks and agreed that Carper could tell other entities that the City was taking the matter under consideration. No amount of donation was determined at the meeting.

Carper said she appreciated the contribution and would like to help the City of Parsons to develop the area around Corricks Ford. "I would appreciate the contribution and the help," Carper said. "We would like to help you, too get what you want down there at that development."



News of Record

The following property transfers have been recorded in the Tucker County Magistrate office:

- Brian Christopher Quattro, of Davis, was charged with one felony count of Malicious or unlawful assault; assault, battery; penalties. According to the complaint, on Sunday, Feb. 16 Cpl. C.R. Summerfield of the Tucker County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) received a complaint from Tucker County Communications 911 that advised a male subject was struck in the head with a baseball bat. 911 advised that the caller was in Davis and the subject had left the scene.
- While en-route he received information from 911 that the victim and the caller were going to meet EMS and law enforcement near the Thomas Bridge. Summerfield arrived on scene and observed the victim in the passenger seat holding a bloody cloth on the right side of his head. Summerfield was advised by the victim that his brother, Brian Quattro, showed up at his residence and struck him in the head with a bat. He was also advised that the defendant also struck a dog with the bat. 911 advised of another call on South Euclid Ave. involving someone attempting to get inside of a residence. While Sgt. Irk of the TCSO was responding Summerfield obtained information from the victim that he believed it was the suspect attempting to talk to his wife. Summerfield, Zirk and Natural Resources Police Officer J. Prickett responded and discovered that the suspect was at the residence attempting to his wife but left prior to their arrival.
- 911 advised that they received information that the suspect was back at the residence. Summerfield and pricket responded and they observed blood on the door of the residence but he was not located. Summerfield spoke to a juvenile at the residence who stated the suspect was there shining a flashlight around but left before officers arrived.
- Zirk located the suspect near the Grant County Bank in Davis. He was detained and when other officers

- arrived on scene he allegedly stated that when he got out it was probably going to get a lot worse for the people involved. He was arrested and placed in West Virginia State Trooper C.A. Hawkins' patrol vehicle. While en-route to TVRJ Hawkins stated the suspect became combative and kicked him in the head while he was driving. The suspect was transported to DMC by EMS. Hawkins and another WVSP unit responded with EMS to DMC.
- Summerfield received information that the victim was receiving medical care at Garrett Medical Center. The officer spoke with the original called who stated that she observed the suspect show up at the residence and strike the victim in the head with the bat. She also provided the officer with a photo of the suspect outside the residence with what appeared to be a baseball bat in his hand.
- Brian Christopher Quattro, of Davis, was charged with one felony count of Destruction of Property and two misdemeanor counts of Battery on an Officer. According to the statement on Sunday, Feb. 16 at approximately 8:41 p.m. State Trooper C.A. Hawkins responded to the Davis area to assist Tucker County Sheriff's deputies with a complaint of a domestic dispute. While en-route he was advised that the deputies had the suspect in custody near the Grant County Bank.
- At approximately 9:28 p.m. Hawkins took custody of the suspect to transport him to Tygart Valley Regional Jail. While en-route, the suspect became increasingly irate and began violently kicking while in the back of the patrol car. He struck the officer in the back of the head on two occasions while kicking nearly causing the officer to lose control and wreck. The suspect also caused damage to the handheld microphone, radio mount, laptop mount and dash area of Hawkins' patrol car. The total estimated value of damaged equipment is approximately \$9,023. The suspect made several comments that he was going to kick the laptop through the windshield.

- Hawkins pulled off the roadway and regained control of the suspect before he was transported via EMS to Davis Medical Center due to self-reports of having a manic episode/panic attack.
- After being medically cleared the suspect was transported to TVRJ.

The following property transfers have been recorded in the Tucker County Clerk's office:

- Land of Canaan Home Owners Association Inc., Dry Fork District, Interest in Unit B4 Week 2, Land of Canaan vacation resort Inc. to Russell Canter and Brittany Canter, \$850.
- Christopher J. Ujvagi and Shannon E. Anderson-Ujvagi, Dry Fork District, Unit 2-A, .085 acres Windwood Duplex Unit 2 A to Kenneth B. Ball and Teresa L. Ball, \$242,500.
- Harry W. Hardy and Carolyn S. Hardy, Black Fork District, .504 acres to Marshall Whisner and Heather Whisner, \$20,000.
- Charles Edward Burnside and Debra Ann Senese, Black Fork District, 103 acres more or less to Kevin John Puglise, \$400,000.
- Franz Harb and Shelagh Sitterson, Fairfax District, 1.30 acres, Coketon to Paul Lucchesi, \$156,000.
- Judson Eversole and Carole Eversole, Dry Fork District, Interest in Unit E2 Week 18 Land of Canaan Vacation Resort Inc. to Land of Canaan Home Owners Association Inc., \$555.50.
- Land of Canaan Home Owners Association Inc. Dry Fork District, interest in Unit A2 Week 2 Land of Canaan Vacation Resort Inc. to Jeffrey Walker, \$800. John R. Shomo, Trustee; Shomo Family Trust,
- Dry Fork District, interest in Unit A5 Week 36 Land of Canaan Vacation Resort Inc. to Land of Canaan Home Owners Association Inc., \$100.
- Cory Dibartolomeo and Rebekah Warren/FKA/ Rebekah Diabartolomeo, Parsons Corporation, Parcel ½ Quality Hill to Trenton Dibartolomeo, \$110,000.

MINISTERIAL Cont. From Front Page 1

Council at the meeting. "I didn't know if there was anything the City had that was like a blanket," Metzner said. "The churches, we have like if we are doing something on the property we have like a blanket that covers everything. I wasn't sure on that. We need to talk about that."

Metzner said she had been helping those in need in the community for years. "I've been doing this for years with people in the community," Metzner said. "I took a man out from under the bridge down here and kept him in my basement for a month."

Metzner said she has spent a lot of her own money over the years to help out those stranded or in need in the community. "I've spent over a \$1,000 myself keeping people in little B&Bs, Blackwater Lodge and whatever," Metzner said.

According to Metzner, changes in her life have made her less able to continue to take transitory individuals into her home. "My husband was alive then and my brother was living with us then,"

I'm not comfortable doing anything like that."

Metzner said she had been working on this for years, but this is the first that a donation like this has been made. been wanting to work with this for a long time," Metzner said. "I've had many different ideas, but this is the first time that I've ever had anything given to me to take care of this problem.

When questioned by Council Member Kathy DiBacco if the building was going to be a homeless shelter, Metzner replied that the structure was not intended to be a homeless shelter, but strictly for transient use. "Its not anything big like a homeless shelter," Metner said. "Its just going to be something, a transition place where people can contact maybe family members and make sure there is someplace they can go. The winter is the worst time when people get here and they're stuck during bad weather. Last summer we had five homeless people in the county and we worked with them. We kept them in water, we kept them with food, we kept them with all kinds of necessities, but I'm more or less talking about somebody who might be here for two or three days. Just depending on what the weather was and what their occurrence was."

Council Members Melissa Jones and Tim Turner mentioned that the only property outside of municipal use facilities under City ownership are FEMA lots along the flood plane, which are heavily restricted on use and building restrictive. "We have all the FEMA lots, but there are all the restrictions on it about housing," Jones said. "And I understand that it would be movable, but that's something that Mike (Simmons) would have to contact FEMA about because usually if they have a camper or something set up on it, it does not have electric and water hook

Council Member Seth Rosenau agreed that the FEMA lots had too the City that would suit Metzner said. "Now I'm by myself and many restrictions to be a viable option. the needs of the Minis-

"Even on the FEMA lots if someone were to change the grade," Rosenau said. "If somebody was to put gravel or anything like that, it has to be approved by FEMA. We do own a lot of property along the river. That's why a lot of people has gardens on them because it doesn't change the landscape as far as FEMA standards."

Rosenau did commend Metzner and the Association for the work they do for the homeless in the community.

"But if we were to put a tiny house, which is a great idea," Rosenau said. "We know you do awesome work. Actually we've had people come in here before and we talk about you and everything that they've been doing, you're association with the homeless."

The Council struggled to think of properties in

terial Association. Council Member Jones thought of one private one, but most of the Council could not think of any that would suit the Association's needs. "But I don't know a property that would fit that bill," Rosenau said.

The Mayor and Council agreed to work with the Ministerial Association and talk further on the issue. The Council decided to get in touch with Metzner and the Association later to discuss the matter further at a later date.



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If you have any questions, please call us at 304-478-3533.

JBITUARIES

Austin Jack Allen Lawrence

Austin Jack Allen Lawrence, age 26 years, a resident of Elkins, WV departed this life Monday, February 17, 2025 as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

He was born Sunday, September 13, 1998 at Elkins, WV a son of Jack Allen Lawrence II and wife Melinda of Fairmont and Tanya Lynn Bowers Coontz of Winchester, VA. Also surviving are his companion, Brittany Renee Knotts of Elkins; his grandfather, Jack Allen Lawrence, Sr. of Parsons; one uncle, Adam Lawrence of Philippi; special cousin, Darran Nugent Coontz of Belington; niece, Vaedah Zimmerman who he adored; great aunts and uncles, Rex and Tammy Lawrence of Alum Creek, Greg and Clara Lawrence of Belington, Shelly and Frank Krizner of Philippi, Keith McDonald of TX, Eric and Debbie McDonald of Paw Paw, Denise McConnel of Winchester, VA, and Rodney



Coontz of Belington; numerous cousins and friends.

Preceding him in death are his maternal grandparents, Randy and Susan Moran Coontz; and his paternal grandmother, Alicia McDonald Lawrence; two uncles, Lorren James Lawrence and Randall Coontz; and one aunt, Lisa Coontz Holsberry.

He was a graduate of Tucker County High School with the Class of 2018, had worked for the Hinchcliff Lumber Company, Bar One at Elkins and currently in the Meat Department at Shop & Save as a meat cutter.

Austin enjoyed lifting weights and working out and was an avid outdoorsman. He loved ramping, caving, swimming, hiking, hunting, camping and picking huckleberries. Growing up he attended the Hambleton Pentecostal Church of God and more recently the Gospel Light Tabernacle at Elkins.

The family received friends at the Lohr & Barb Funeral Home of Elkins from 4 to 7 PM, Friday. On Saturday morning, February 22, 2025 Austin will be moved to the Gospel Light Tabernacle at Elkins, where friends called from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon the funeral hour. The Reverend A. H. Belt will officiate and interment will follow at the Parsons City Cemetery at Parsons, WV. The Lohr & Barb Funeral Home is honored to be in charge of the arrangements for Austin Jack Allen Lawrence. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.lohrbarbfuneralhome.

Mr. M. Alan Flanagan

Mr. M. Alan Flanagan of Dryfork, WV passed away on Monday February 10, 2025 at the age of 82.

Alan was born to the parents of Kermit and Agnes Flanagan on January 22, 1943 in Thomas, WV. He grew up as the youngest of three children and graduated High School in West Virginia. Alan worked on the Flanagan family Farm and supported his family as a Cargo Ramp Agent and trainer at Dulles International



Airport in Virginia.

Alan is survived by his son Eric Flanagan, grandson Dane Flanagan, granddaughter Madeline Jn. Louis, great granddaughter Zaya Jn. Louis, sister Betty Sue Wardrope, 2 Nieces, and 2 Nephews. Alan is preceded in death by his wife MaryAnn Flanagan, his son Jessee Flanagan, parents Kermit and Agnes Flanagan, and brother William Frank Flanagan.

Services will be held at 01:00PM on March 29, 2025 at the Red Creek Bethel Church Laneville Rd in Dryfork, WV 26263.

Ashley Nicole Novallis

Ashley Nicole Novallis, age 42, a resident of Davis, WV departed this life Saturday evening, February 15, 2025 at her home, following the most courageous battle with metastatic breast cancer. She had been in declining health for the past few years, although death was unexpected.

She was born September 17, 1982 in Elkins, WV, the daughter of Sheila and Terry Blosser of Parsons, WV and Patrick Jr. and Michelle Crakes of Columbus, OH/ Manhattan Beach, CA, all surviving. She grew up in a beautiful, blended family, where she formed close bonds with her bonus parents. She was so

very thankful for all of them. Ashley's most cherished role was being a mother to her two young sons; Deacon Christopher Novallis and Jaxon Matthew Novallis. They were her primary motivation daily. She was a devoted mother and adored them with a love that had no bounds. She strived to teach her boys resilience, to be kind and spirited, as she role modeled it daily. She was so proud of them and they were her absolute pride and joy. She was their biggest fan. She enjoyed watching them compete in their sports, play and spend time with their friends. going on four-wheeler rides, having spontaneous dance parties, and just enjoying quality time with their loved

Ashley was known from a young age as a natural born leader and her character shined during her six-year fight with cancer. Her life was a testament to living fully in the moment and never

wavering in her roles and responsibilities, characterized by a determination to carry on no matter what.

She was a graduate of Tucker County High School, Class of 2000, where she was an active member of the school community and a cheerleader all four years. After High School, she attended Indiana University where she was a

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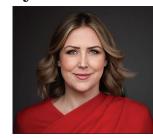
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member of the Alpha Xi Delta Sorority, graduating with a Bachelor's of the Arts (BA) with a double major in Classical Civilization and Political Science, in 2004. Later, she attended West Virginia University where she received a Masters of Public Administration (MPA) in Finance, in

She started her working career while still an undergraduate student by securing a prestigious internship with then West Virginia U.S. Representative, now U.S. Senator Shelly Moore Capito, serving during her junior and senior years. The summer experiences at the U.S. Capital in Washington D.C. further ignited an intense interest in the public sector as well as a drive to experience life to its

As a result, after undergraduate, she went on to hold several positions in various areas connected to the U.S. Federal Government in Washington D.C., including KinderCare Education.

She then returned to university to obtain her Master's Degree, during which she was a Graduate Fellow for the West Virginia House of Delegates, Judiciary Committee. Upon graduation, she worked for the State of West Virginia as a Business Analyst and then for Deloitte and Maryville consulting groups, solving technology and information issues for various U.S. Government clients, including the Department of Defense.

In 2021, she joined Apptio/ IBM in their Americas Public Sector and was most recently VP. Americas for Partner Ecosystem. She led by example with confidence, determination, and had an unstoppable work ethic. Her professional

influence is best summed up by a close colleague; "The impact of her passing is felt and recognized across our organization. From all facets of our business, Ashley made such a profound impression, both for the quality of her work, as well as the quality of her character."

In addition to her parents, she is survived by her two handsome sons, Deacon Christopher Novallis (12) and Jaxon Matthew Novallis (9). along with their father, Christopher Novallis; She was the oldest of her 5 siblings: Jason Crakes (41), Walker Blosser (26) and partner Brandon Robinson, Cassandra Crakes (24), Joshua Crakes (22), and Ella Crakes (20); nephew, Levi Howard; niece, Brooklyn Howard; Aunts and Uncles, Linda and Wayne Cutright, Matthew Crakes and Caroline Shen, Ken Teagarden, Linda Teagarden, several other loving aunts, uncles, cousins, and several close friends whom she considered family, especially Erin, Samantha, and Rachel.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents Geraldine and Ken Teagarden, Patrick Crakes Senior and Dashiella Brogan, Sam and Shirley Blosser, her Uncle Glen Teagarden, and aunt Donna Teagarden.

Our beloved Ashley fought with such strength, grace, resilience, and unwavering courage as she lived life to the fullest. She endured her cancer battle with her legendary good humor that always saw her as the life of the party. She was fierce and refused to let cancer define her and though our hearts are shattered, we find comfort in the inspiration and example she provided for all who knew her.

She was larger than life and her absence will forever leave an irreplaceable void. Her fearless spirit will continue to live on in those who had the honor and privilege to know and love her. She will forever remain in our hearts, guiding us through the days ahead as we honor her incredible jour-

There will be a small, private ceremony during the week of February 24, 2025 to support the boys and her immediate family. The family appreciates everyone's respect of that privacy.

In the spring, there will be a larger gathering to celebrate Ashley's life. When this plan is finalized, this information will be shared.

Ashley's number one priority was always the care of her two young boys. So, in lieu of flowers, we have established "The Ashley Crakes Novallis Fund" through the Tucker Community Foundation to gather donations in support of

Anyone who wants to donate needs to specify Ashley's name so the foundation knows where to make the deposit

If you would like to donate, you can do so by:

• Calling (304) 478-2930 and paying via card over the

• Mailing a check to:

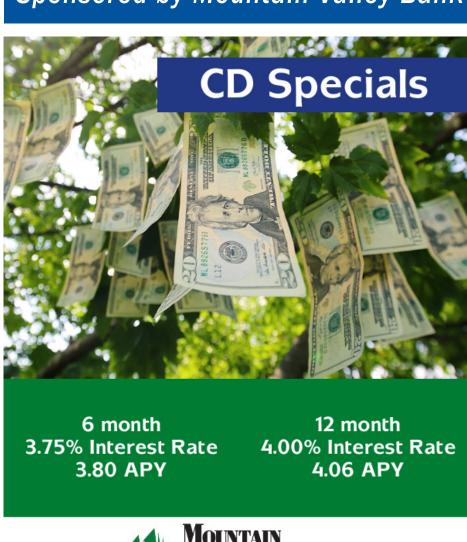
Tucker Community Foundation

PO Box 491

Parsons, WV 26287

Following the contribution link below in charity donations and scroll to the bottom of the page for the PayPal link. Thank you in advance for your generosity. The entire family is eternally grateful.







www.mountainvalleybank.com



*Annual Percentage Yield. The stated APY is accurate as of 01/15/2025. Minimum deposit to open is \$1,000 Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Certain restrictions may apply. Offer may be withdrawn at any time

at Parsons Volunteer Fire Department SATURDAY,

MARCH

First 30 Players in the door a chance at \$50 Cash

Progressive Ladder **Jackpot** \$3,392

Progressive Co. 10 **Jackpot** \$1,296

Tip games will be available when the doors open at 6:00

KITCHEN WILL BE OPEN WITH SEVERAL FOOD OPTIONS!

Conservation groups condemn recent mass firings at US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service

ELKINS, W.Va.—The West Virginia Highlands Conservancy, the Allegheny-Blue Ridge Alliance and Friends of the 500th have condemned the Trump administration's decision to terminate thousands of U.S. Forest Service, United States Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service employees across the country. The layoffs affect crucial staff including many who live and work in West Virginia and Virginia—who have long served as stewards of our shared natural heritage.

According to recent reports, approximately 3,400 U.S. Forest Service employees (10% of the workforce) and 1,000 National Park Service staff (5% of the workforce) have been fired, many while still in their probationary period. The Monongahela National Forest—which was already chronically understaffed now faces even greater challenges. The George Washington and Jefferson National Forests, which stretch into parts of West Virginia and Virginia, face the same crisis.

In 2024, the New River Gorge National Park and Preserve generated over \$96 million in tourism dollars and helped support more than a thousand local jobs in West Virginia, according to the National Park Service. In 2023, tourism to Shenandoah National Park contributed \$114 million to the local economy in Virginia. That spending supported 1,351 jobs in the local area and had a cumulative benefit to the local economy of \$156 million. Record visitation at our national forests and state parks is breathing new life into small towns once overshadowed by a century of resource extraction.

Statement by Marilyn Shoenfeld, President, West Virginia Highlands Conservancy and Friends of the 500th:

"It is with great sadness and mounting frustration that I report the sudden firing of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ecological Services staff stationed at Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge on Friday,

February 14. This arbitrary decision, made without notice, or plan, further compounds devastating lavoffs of our U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service employees. Who will now protect and preserve our public lands—including our wetlands, streams, and unique ecological systems—that keep our water drinkable, our air breathable and our wildlife safe? We must act now and stand together to put an end to this madness."

Statement by Olivia Miller, Program Director at the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy:

"We are deeply concerned by this attack on our National Forest system, national parks, and their employees—and we're dismayed by the apparent silence from so many of our state's leaders. Last Friday, hardworking West Virginians who have been working tirelessly to keep our forests healthy and our parks thriving went to work only to discover they were out of a job by day's end. Where is the dignity in that?

"Our national forests and parks aren't just scenery—they're woven into the fabric of who we are as Americans. They provide us all with clean water, clean air and irreplaceable opportunities for hunting, fishing, hiking and family recreation. Our Forest Service employees not only protect these natural treasures but also keep our trails well maintained, safeguard wildlife and ensure that our campgrounds and forests remain free of litter. We are proud to have worked alongside these professionals over the years, many of whom have served on our board. Our missions go hand in hand.

"Many communities throughout West Virginia's highlands have proud, generational ties to the U.S. Forest Service, and this wave of layoffs risks derailing local initiatives focused on conservation, recreation and economic development. Watching so many dedicated professionals lose their jobs is devastating. We call on every West Virginian to contact their representatives and demand immediate action to halt these lavoffs and reinvest in our forests and parks. Our public lands deserve robust, long-term investment that will sustain our communities and protect our natural heritage for generations to come."

Statement from Andrew Young, Staff Attorney at the Allegheny-Blue Ridge Alliance:

"It's no secret that conservationists and federal land managers don't always agree on every project. Yet we share a core mission: to safeguard the public interest, protect our treasured landscapes, and preserve our natural heritage for the generations who will follow us. The skilled civil servants now losing their jobs have spent their careers working toward those same ideals—even when we debated the details, our commitment to the land itself was mutual.

"Instead of tearing down the workforce that keeps our lands healthy and accessible, we should be growing sustainable outdoor economies especially in regions like rural Appalachia, where responsible recreation and conservation jobs can genuinely lift up communities. I urge everyone who values our public lands to stand up and demand accountability: reach out to elected officials, join grassroots efforts, and stand alongside the people who steward these resources in the public trust. Don't let these selfish men skin our country of its riches. These workers need to know we have their backs."

About the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy:

Founded in 1967, the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy is one of the state's oldest environmental advocacy organizations, dedicated to protecting the natural resources and beauty of the West Virginia high-

About the Allegheny-Blue Ridge Alliance:

The Allegheny-Blue Ridge Alliance is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and protecting the environmental integrity of the Allegheny-Blue Ridge region and the surrounding Central Appalachian Highlands of Virginia and West Virginia.

About the Friends of the 500th:

The Friends of the 500th, established in 1996, is a nonprofit dedicated to supporting the Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge, the nation's 500th National Wildlife Refuge.

Blackwater Ministerial **Association Receives Grant** for New Food Pantry

The Blackwater Ministerial Association (BMA) is pleased to announce receipt of a \$132,000 Directed Congressional Spending Grant to support construction of their new Food Pantry.

The grant was facilitated by former Senator Joe Manchin and marks a pivotal moment for the non-profit organization and its ongoing efforts to serve the community.

The \$84,390 match requirement for the grant necessitated a local fundraising effort. Tom Kucer, BMA President, stated, "I am pleased to announce the completion of the fundraising drive for the construction of our new facility. This milestone has been achieved thanks to the unwavering support and generosity of our donors, partners, and community members."

THANK YOU FOR READING

LEGAL

LEGAL NOTICE STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

A meeting of the Stockholders of Miners & Merchants Bank of Thomas, West Virginia will be held at the Bank's Main Office Building located at 16000 Appalachian Highway, Thomas, West Virginia on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, beginning at 1:00 p.m., for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors for the ensuing year and transacting any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

Given under my hand this 4th day of February 2025.

Jennifer Newland

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE Town of Davis

Water System Improvements Project Public Meeting

The Town of Davis will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, Februvis, WV 26260 to discuss the Water System Improvements Project. The purpose of this notice is to provide the public with an opportunity to be-

come acquainted with the proposed project and receive public comment. Representatives from the Town of Davis, along with the project team, will provide information on the scope of the proposed project, answer questions and concerns about the project, and seek public input. State funding will be used for this project.

LEGAL

I have before me the accounts of the Executor or Administrator of the estates of the following deceased persons:

Personal Representative(s) Deceased Linda L. Goss

Danny A. Goss 1st publication 2/19/25 8000 Uptown Ave. Broomfield, CO 80021 2nd publication 2/26/25

he filed wit is of the date of first publication. Any person seeking to impeach or establish a will must make a complaint to the Tucker County Commission, Tucker County Clerk, 211 First St., Suite 205, Parsons, WV. Any person objecting to the qualifications of the personal representative or the venue or jurisdiction of the court must be filed with County Commission within sixty days after the date of first publication or thirty days of service of the notice,

whichever is later. ATTEST: SHERRY SIMMONS, TUCKER COUNTY CLERK

LEGAL

Notice of Public Comments for the 2025 Tucker County Comprehensive Plan

Tucker County Planning Commission

The Tucker County Planning Commission will host two public meetings to present the revised Tucker County Comprehensive Plan. The first meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, February 25, 2025, in the Davis Town Hall (505 William Avenue) in Davis. The second meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday, February 27, 2025, in the Old Courthouse Courtroom (211 First Street) in Parsons.

A copy of the full text of the proposed 2024 Comprehensive Plan is available for review at no charge at Five Rivers Public Library in Parsons, the Mountaintop Public Library in Thomas, and the County Clerk's office in the Tucker County Courthouse in Parsons.

The revised Tucker County Comprehensive Plan is designed to provide information and to serve as a resource for planning for the future of Tucker County. The Comprehensive Plan is Tucker County's official guide for land use, housing, transportation, economic development, infrastructure, public services, connectivity, tourism, and county demographics. The Plan will serve as the County's guiding document for 10 years into the future, protecting and enhancing the unique character

LEGAL

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Monitoring Requirements Not Met for **HAMRICK PSD WV3304704**

Our water system violated drinking water monitoring requirements within the past year(s). Even though these were not emergencies, you, as our customers, have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct

We are required to monitor your drinking water on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. Between 1/1/2023 and 12/31/2023, we failed to submit the required samples as indicated below and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time. The table below lists the required monitoring and the compliance period.

| Monitoring Violation | Year-Fed | Monitoring | Compliance |
|--|-------------|------------|------------|
| | Report # | Frequency | Period |
| 02, MCL, Haloacetic Acids (HAA5), Exceeded Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) | 2024-147773 | Quarterly | 3QT 2024 |

What happened? What is being done? (Describe corrective action)

Third quarter results for HAA5 was too high. HPSD has since flushed the lines, and the current levels are back For more information, please contact Jason S. Lipscomb at 304-478-2898 or P.O. Box 228, Hendricks, WV 26271.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. Date Prepared: February 6, 2025 Date Distributed: 2/21/25

LEGAL

(2022-C-000044 - TUCKER COUNTY - BARBARA ZICKEFOOSE)

To: MEGA ENERGY, INC, BRENT J. MORSE, THE MORSE FAMILY SECURITY TRUST, SILVER LININGS RESOURCES, LLC, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have any interest in the subject

DISTRICT ST. GEORGE MAP 9999 PARCEL 0110 0300 0000

You will take notice that BARBARA ZICKEFOOSE, the purchaser of the following real estate, Cert. No. 2022-C-000044, located in ST. GEORGE District, OIL & GAS MINERAL INTERESTS 1050 AC & 308 AC & 49, which was returned delinquent and nonentered in the name of MEGA ENERGY ETAL, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of TUCKER County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on June 27, 2023. BARBARA ZICKEFOOSE requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after April 1, 2025, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before March 31, 2025 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with 330.70 interest, for tax year ticket number 2021 - 10619. Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for 0.00 ticket number. 218.72 Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2022 - 10672. Additional taxes with interest. 0.00 Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest. 217.60 Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service, 665.10 Secretary of State with interest. 557.15 Additional Statutory Fees with Interest. Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order 1,989.27 or certified or personal check.

You may redeem at any time before March 31, 2025 by paying the above total

less any unearned interest. Given under my hand January 30, 2025

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.

Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and Nonentered Lands of GREENBRIER County, State of West Virginia

Please return this letter and payment to the WV State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East **Building 1, Room W-114** Charleston, West Virginia 25305 Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

LEGAL

(Cert. No. 47391 Riverview Chapel Church)

To: DEBORAH KAY KISAMORE MILLER, MARY GRACE KISAMORE, MADONNA LYNN KISA-MORE, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT BLACK FORK MAP 323 PARCEL 0012 0000

You will take notice that Riverview Chapel Church, the purchaser of the following real estate, Certification No. 47391, located in BLACK FORK District, PARCEL .012 PORTERWOOD which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of KISAMORE HELEN KISAMORE HELEN BOX 109 RT 2, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of Tucker County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on 10/08/2024. Riverview Chapel Church requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after 07/14/2025, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before 07/14/2025 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with 290.96 interest, to 07/14/2025. Amount of taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to 07/14/2025. 0.00 Amount paid for Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and 939.03 for preparation and service of notice with interest to 07/14/2025. Additional Statutory Fees with interest to 07/14/2025. 0.00 Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order, certified or 1229.99 personal check must be made payable to The Honorable Jacob Kopec, Sheriff of Tucker County.

You may redeem at any time before 07/14/2025, by paying the above total less any unearned interest. Given under my hand 2/19/2025

Christal G. Perry

Christal G. Perry

Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and

Nonentered Lands of Tucker County, State of West Virginia Please return this letter and payment to the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collection Division

1900 Kanawha Blvd East, **Building 1, Room W-114** Charleston, West Virginia 25305 Questions please call 1-888-509-6568

What's ? Happening

The Free Friday

Free Friday will be held on February 28, 2025, at the First United Methodist Church in Parsons at 6 pm. The menu this month will be soups, sandwiches, chips, desserts and drinks. Everyone is welcome. No donations accepted.

The Region VI Workforce Development Board Meeting

FULL BOARD MEETING The Region VI Workforce Development Full Board will meet Thursday, March 13th, 2025, at 10:30 am at the Marion County Convention & Visitors Bureau located in Pleasant Valley, WV. For more information about the meeting, contact Maria Larry at 304-368-9530.

Region VI is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. If you have a hearing impairment and need assistance, please call WV Relay 7-1-1.



Charleston WV - The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history. To read more, go to e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia at www.wvencyclopedia.org.

Feb. 26, 1869: The legislature approved a bill moving the state capital to Charleston.

Feb. 26, 2022: Fire destroyed the historic administration building of the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind in Romney.

Feb. 27, 1867: Marshall College (now university) was established as a normal school to train teachers. The first term began June 15, 1868, with 25 students enrolled in three departments.

Feb. 27, 1871: Summers County was established from segments of Fayette, Greenbrier, Mercer and Monroe counties. The county was named after George W. Summers, one of West Virginia's founders.

Feb. 27, 1871: The legislature approved an act incorporating the city of Huntington.

Feb. 28, 1831: Fayette County was formed by the General Assembly of Virginia from parts of Kanawha, Nicholas, Greenbrier and Logan counties. The county was named for the Marquis de Lafayette, the French military officer who served under George Washington during the Revolutionary

Feb. 28, 1858: McDowell County, the southernmost county in West Virginia, was created from part of Tazewell County, Virginia. The new county was named after James McDowell, a governor of Vir-

Feb. 28, 1875: Musician Edwin "Edden" Hammons was born in Pocahontas County. A subsistence farmer and hunter, he is remembered as one of West Virginia's finest tradi-

tional fiddlers. Feb. 28, 1909: Athlete John Zontini was born. Nicknamed the "Sheik of Seth" for his outstanding football career at Sherman High School in Boone County, he still holds state high school and Marshall University

March 1, 1831: Jackson County was created from parts of Wood, Mason and Kanawha counties and named in honor of Andrew Jackson, the seventh president.

rushing records.

March 1, 1870: The legislature passed an act to create a branch normal school at West



Feb. 26, 1972: One of the country's worst miningrelated disasters occurred on Buffalo Creek in Logan County. A coal waste dam collapsed, sending 132 million gallons of water, coal refuse and silt into the valley. In the end, 125 people, including entire families, were killed, and 1,000 people were injured.

Liberty. For the next 61 years, the school was a teacher preparatory institution. It is now a university.

March 1, 1898: Homer Adams Holt was born in Lewisburg. In 1937, he became West Virginia's 20th governor.

March 1, 2011: Sutton native Jorea Marple was sworn in as West Virginia's first female superintendent of schools.

March 2, 1840: The Virginia General Assembly granted a charter for Bethany College. From the beginning, it has been a four-year, baccalaureatedegree college, the oldest such institution in West Virginia.

March 2, 1896: Clair Bee was born in Pennsboro. Bee was a successful, innovative college basketball coach and widely published author of both technical basketball books and young adult fiction centered on sports.

March 2, 1915: A blast swept through Layland No. 3 Mine in Fayette County, killing 114

March 2, 1927: The West Virginia capitol building known as the "pasteboard capitol" was destroyed by fire. This wood-frame building in downtown Charleston had been built in just 42 days after the previous Victorian-style capitol building burned in 1921.

March 2, 1961: Governor Wally Barron signed legislation that granted Marshall College university status.

March 3, 1843: Barbour County was created from parts of Lewis, Harrison and Randolph counties and named for Virginia jurist Philip Pendleton Barbour.

March 3, 1890: Teacher and civic activist Memphis Tennessee Garrison was born in Virginia. She helped develop NAACP chapters in southern West Virginia and created the Christmas Seal Project.

March 4, 1849: Earl Williams Oglebay was born in Bridgeport, Ohio. He became one of Wheeling's most successful industrialists and generous benefactors.

March 4, 1893: Governor William MacCorkle gave his inaugural address in which he warned that West Virginia was "passing under the control of foreign and non-resident landowners.'

4, 1924: Blues musician Nathaniel H. "Nat" Reese was born in Salem, Virginia. Growing up in Princeton, Reese learned and played blues, jazz, country and dance music throughout the southern coalfields. He is a member of the West Virginia Music Hall of Fame.





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or call 1.877.283.6687 and mention code AGJF002 Omaha Steaks Wine is operated independently from Omaha Steaks, LLC

Weather Totals

Feb. 11 - Feb. 18, 2025

Nursery Bottom Parsons

<u>Temperature</u>

59° F Max 10° F Min

Precipitation

1.64" February 3.68" 2025 7.95"

Snowfall

New Snow 3.75" Snow on ground Winter Total 43.25"

U.S. Forest Service

Weekly SUDOKU

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| | 6 | | 5 | | 3 | | 4 | |

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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By Teri Cayton

The Parsons Advocate

Just 22 days until spring arrives and I can't wait. This has been one winter in a long time that it has actually acted like winter. We have had some very, very cold days and a lot more snow than we have had in ages. I think we have needed this to reset the seasonal clock. Momma Said, "Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow."

I know it is also a long time until Easter but I just saw something that I would like to share with all of you. I don't know how many of you still color Easter eggs but I saw an article about coloring with natural ingredients. You can try Hibiscus flowers or tea, indigo, fennel, yarrow, dahlia, chamomile, avocado seeds and much more. Check it out on line and all of these are safe for you and your children.

Let your children participate and teach them about the herbs and natural ingredients you are using. There are so many natural plants Momma (Saíd This column is about tips helpful hints, recipes and words of wisdom. I dedicate this column to m mother. By Teri Cayton

that will give you beautiful eggs and no side effects or chemicals. Actually, I'm not sure how many of us can afford to buy the eggs to color but I hope by the time Easter comes around the price will come down. Momma Said, "We all may have to resort to plastic eggs and hope for the best."

I have heard so many reports about having to kill all the chickens that are affected with the flu and that is such a hard thing for the growers to absorb. It will also be a lot of hard work cleaning the houses so new flocks of chicks can be brought in. Momma Said, "God will not give us more than we can handle, this too shall pass."

Deep Fried Deviled Eggs

INGREDIENTS

(These are suggested ingredients you can always use your recipe for the filling.)

- Eggs + (2 not boiled)
- Mayo
- Mustard
- Paprika
- Pickles, diced
- Jalapenos, diced (optional) 1 tsp. Vinegar
- Salt and pepper
- Oil for frying
- Panko crumbs

INSTRUCTIONS

Boil eggs as usual then place in cold water until cool. While wait-

60 Busy airport

69 World capital

74 '60s war

member

Spears

detail

79 Plane ticket

76 Britney

in the Andes

ing, mix ingredients together, you can use whatever vou want for the ingredients to stuff the eggs above is just a suggestion. When eggs are cool cut in half longwise and remove the yoke to a separate bowl. Mash yokes with fork and add to wet ingredients, mix well and place in a plastic bag.

Take egg whites and roll in flour, place in egg wash, cover eggs with wash and then roll in panko crumbs. Carefully place in hot oil until golden brown, remove and place on paper towel or rack to drain. When the eggs are cool, cut corner off the plastic bag and pipe filling into eggs. Sprinkle with paprika and enjoy the crunch.

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.PARSONSADVOCATE.COM

SONG TITLES

Super Crossword 13 Thin streets **ACROSS** 112 "Casablanca" 58 "Science 1 Teenage Guy" with woman 14 "In this way" witch played 113 "Dies -15 Spanish for multiple Emmvs (Latin hymn) "month" **59** Honorable 114 - Schwarz

115 Peculiar

with "out

120 Liza Minnelli

127 Roaring cat

crossbreed

loose cover-

ings from

playwright

129 "Tartuffe"

130 Thick

63 George Strait 118 Just making,

75 2010-14 Mets 128 Remove

by Melissa Joan Hart 8 Breakwater embankment **15** Nintendo title plumber

20 Germ-free 21 Singer with the 2018 hit "Boo'd Up" 22 Put up, as a building

23 Patti Smith 25 Flat. as cola 26 One of the two Pro Bowl gps. 27 Rankle

28 Notices 30 Hero type 31 Nina Simone 39 Napoli's nation 41 Alien-seeking

proj. **42** City near Disney World 43 Manicure tool 46 Oxidizes 49 Put the

kibosh on 50 Missy Elliott 53 Dir. from Miss. to Mich 56 Pre-CIA gp. 57 Ad featuring Smokey

Bear, e.g.

85 "Law & Order" spinoff, in brief detail. for short

99 Narrates 100 Running journalist 106 Totally in favor of

80 Large 131 Ancient musical disk Jewish 81 Encyc. unit ascetics 82 Tosses out 132 Slung mud at of the game, DOWN for short 1 Very long tale

88 Busy insect 89 Bessie Smith 97 Plane ticket 98 Mafioso John rather quickly 104 "This Is Life"

107 Chuck Berry

2 Dating from 3 Furniture pieces for 4 Tach abbr. 7 Have on one's shoulder

lying or sitting 5 Judge Lance 6 Petty peeve 8 "Black

Panther" actor Andy 9 "Xanadu" gp. 10 Sitcom ET

11 "679" rapper

12 Make laugh

Fettv

16 Skilled crafter 17 Go further in the book, say 18 Apple digital storage service

19 Verdi opera 24 Mess up 29 Hercules player Kevin 32 Afflictions 33 Natural talent 34 Greet loudly

35 Architect Saarinen 36 Double (Oreo option) 37 Wife on "The Addams Family, casually

38 Big to-do 39 Lowdown **40** Mai (rum drinks) 44 Track circuit 45 Mag staffers

47 Ex-Yankee Martinez 48 James Bond genre, in brief **51** Ox of Tibet 52 "Doggone it!" 53 Punishment for a tube

watcher

54 "Me neither

55 Rival of Ben 91 WWII battle & Jerry's town in 59 Nibble (on) France 60 Suspend 92 Glue -(brand of 61 Scanned

market ID adhesive in 62 Busy insect a tube) **64** With one flat, 93 Hog sound musically 94 Tesla auto, 65 Brief snooze 66 Biotech-

95 String created food necktie **67** Atop, 96 Quiet stretch in verse 97 Fuel gases

68 Japanese 100 Off-track 101 New film type salad green 69 Links gp. for in the 1920s 102 What "@" is women 70 Club for a 103 Rotational 69-Down force member

105 Big blunders 71 Small fortune 108 Man-goat 72 Letters of deities 109 Marsh plants invitation? 73 American 110 Capture 111 Campus 77 Margarine buildings

116 Have the quaintly guts 117 Made blond, 78 Adobe Acrobat maybe suffix 83 Fourth 119 Test for college srs. of a yr

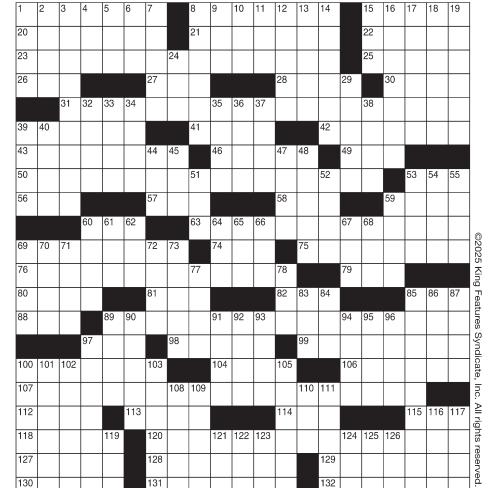
121 Prior to, 84 That girl 85 Large yellow in sonnets 122 Indian 86 Put the flatbread kibosh on 123 Not closed, 87 KGB's land in verse 89 Paree "to be" **124** — -pah band

90 Native New

Zealander

125 Heady brew

126 Day, to Diego



Puzzle answers page 7

Tucker Boys Get Regular Season Sweep of Southern Garrett 61-50

By: Adam Freeman

The Tucker County Boys' Basketball team played just one game again this past week which also acted as 'Senior Night' that recognized their senior boys' basketball players and cheerleaders. Tucker hosted a longtime rival in the Rams of Southern Garett, MD. Tucker defeated Southern on the first meeting this season in Oakland. The Mt. Lions jumped out on the Rams to start the game and took an early 15-9 after one period. Southern, however, would not go away easily as the Rams outscored Tucker in the second period and it was a 2-point game at the half 25-23 in Tucker's favor. The third quarter is where the game would ultimately be decided as the Mt. Lions exploded for 23 points to the Rams 13 points and Tucker was ahead 48-36 going into the final period. Tucker would

push their lead out to nearly



Seniors L-R: Trevan Bonner, Garrett Wilfong, Cole Carr, Reagan Herron, Kennide Helmick, Maddie

20 in the fourth period, but the Rams would not go away quietly with the final score of 61-50.

Bonner 27 pts, 3 reb, FT 2-4; Marks 10 pts, 1 reb; Mitchell 10 pts, 3 reb 3 stl; Wilfong 9 pts, 13 reb, 3 stl, 1 blk, FT 1-2; Lambert 3 pts, 5 reb, 2 stl; Carr 2 pts,

3 Point Goals 8-20: Bonner (3) Marks (2) Mitchell (2) Lambert (1)

Tucker will return home on Monday for a makeup 'PINK OUT' game against Moorefield with tipoff set for 5:45pm, they will then travel to Tygarts Valley



Mitchell steps Mikey back for the triple (Photos by Brittany Channell)

on Thursday for a 5:45pm

DT Bears pictured with pink bands to honor Ashley Crakes Novallis who unfortunately lost her battle to cancer earlier last week.

DT Bears with Busy Week Remember One of Their Own

By: Adam Freeman

The Davis Thomas Bears Boys Basketball team had 3 games this past week. First, they traveled to Kasson Middle School to take on the Eagles. The Bears would fall in the contest with a final score of 61-49.

Luzier 15, O'Brien 14, Huffman 8, Dearborn 6, Kerr 6

DT would then have back-to-back matchups with the Union Tigers. The first matchup was on Thursday, February 20 where the Bears would fall 38-21.

Luzier 10, O'Brien 5, Kerr 4, Sisler 2

The final matchup with Union came on Saturday, February 22 where the Bears wore pink bands in memory of Ashley Crakes Novallis, who recently lost her battle with cancer. The Bears would again fall to Union in similar fashion this time 38-22.

O'Brien 8, Dearborn 6, Luzier 3, Huffman 3, Kerr 2

This concludes the season for the Davis Thomas Boys Basketball Team.

Tucker Valley Closes Out Season with Loss to Belington

By: Adam Freeman

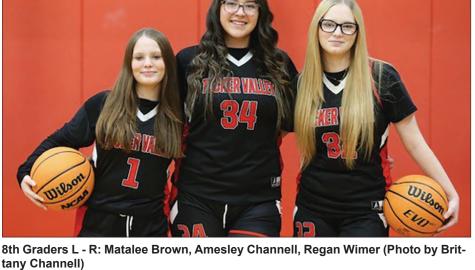
The Tucker Valley Middle School Boys' Basketball team wrapped up its season this past week with a loss to Belington Middle. Belington jumped out to a 12-7 advantage after the first quarter. They would continue to build on that lead before the half as the score was 22-13. The Wildcats would fight their way back into contention to start the second half, holding Belington to 1 point while scoring 7 and pulled the game to within one possession at 23-20. Belington would turn up the heat in the fourth quarter and pull away from the Wildcats for a final score of 37-25.

Bowley 8, Tuttle 6, Wilfong 4, Hyre 4,

This contest concludes the basketball season for the Tucker Valley Wildcats.

Tucker Valley Lady Wildcats Finish Their 2025 Season







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Lady Mt. Lions Split with **Fairmont Senior and Moorefield**



Mayah Gross drives to the basket By: Adam Freeman

The Tucker County Girls' Basketball team started their week by traveling to Marion County to take on a not-so-familiar opponent in Fairmont Senior. The contest was a tight one through the first period of play with the Lady Polar Bears holding an 13-11 advantage. The Lady Mt. Lions would only muster 8 points in the second period to Fairmont's 13 points, and Tucker was down 7 points at the half, 26-19. The Polar Bears would extend the lead in the third period pushing the difference out to 12 points at 45-33 going into the final period of play. Tucker was never able to claw back in the contest and would eventually fall, 58-44.

Matthews 13 pts, 8 reb, FT 7-14; Evans 13 pts, 6 reb FT 7-9; Kitzmiller 6 pts, 2 reb, FT 1-5; Snyder 4 pts, 1 reb; Gross 3 pts, 4 reb, FT 1-2; Moats 1 pt, 3 reb, FT 1-2; Hicks 1 pt, 2 reb; Shaffer 1 pt, FT 1-2

3 Point Goals 1-6: Kitzmiller (1)

Tucker would return home for their next matchup with a much more common opponent in the Moorefield Lady Yellow Jackets.



Addi Moats elevates for the 3-point shot (Photos by Brittany Channell)

The game was tight at the end of the first quarter with both teams playing a high intensity pressure defense resulting in a combined 60 free throw attempts in the contest. After one quarter, Tucker held a narrow 11-8 lead. Tucker's defense would hold the Lady Jackets to just 1 point in the second quarter while scoring 9 of their own, giving the Lady Mt. Lions a 20-9 lead at the break. Moorefield would get their offense going and some shots to fall in the third quarter, but Tucker would do the same, dropping 18 pts in the period and pushing the lead out to 38-22. Tucker would put the game on ice in the final period and keep the win in Tucker County with a 50-33 victory.

Gross 14 pts, 4 reb, FT 6-7; Matthews 13 pts, 18 reb, FT 5-8; Evans 11 pts, 11 reb, 4 stl, FT 7-8; Moats 7 pts, 4 stl, FT 2-3; Kitzmiller 4 pts, 2 reb, FT 1-2; Snyder 1 pt, 9 reb, FT 1-6

3 Point Goals 2-11: Kitzmiller (1) Moats (1)

This game concluded the regular season for Tucker girls' squad, and they will host the Harman Lady Panthers next Friday at 7pm for the first round of regional play.

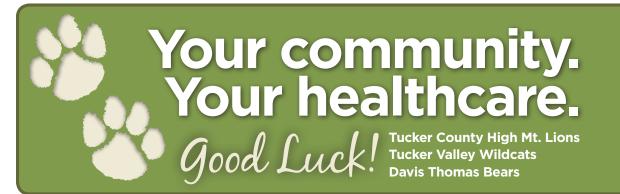


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WV Wesleyan College Partners with WV Behavioral Healthcare Providers Association, Offers State's First Certificate in Addiction Counseling

Buckhannon, WV - West Virginia Wesleyan College (WVWC) is proud to announce a new partnership with the West Virginia Behavioral Healthcare Providers Association (WVBHPA) to offer a Certificate in Addiction Counseling (CAC) program. This initiative, housed within WVWC's Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) program, will provide essential training for professionals addressing substance use disorders in West Virginia and the Appalachian region.

The Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at WVWC is the first graduate counseling training program in the state to offer a specialization in Addiction Counseling as part of the 60-credit degree. Students can enroll in the CAC as part of the CMHC master's program or as a fully online, 12-credit certificate program if they already hold a healthcare-related master's degree. The CAC can be completed in as little as one semester, equipping students with the skills and knowledge needed to deliver quality addiction counseling services to communities hardest hit by substance use disorders.

Dr. Jen Randall Reyes, Director of the School of Counseling and Psychology at WVWC, expressed enthusiasm for the partnership.

"The School of Counseling and Psychology at West Virginia Wesleyan College is honored to partner with the West Virginia Behavioral Healthcare Providers Association (WVBHPA) to bring our Certificate in Addiction Counseling (CAC) to their membership. We support WVBHPA's mission to create and sustain healthy and secure communities by training exceptional counselors at Wesleyan through our Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling," Dr. Reyes said.

WVWC Provost Dr. Lynn M. Linder emphasized the significance of this collaboration.

"We are thrilled to launch this innovative Certificate in Addiction Counseling program, a significant step forward in addressing the critical need for skilled addiction counselors in our state. This program embodies West Virginia Wesleyan College's commitment to creating meaningful impact and fostering positive change in West Virginia and the broader Appalachian region, providing flexible pathways for professionals to gain expertise in tackling substance use challenges," Dr.

Through this partnership, the WVBHPA's nearly 40 member

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organizations will have access to WVWC's high-quality addiction counseling training, furthering their mission to strengthen behavioral healthcare services across the state. By expanding educational opportunities for professionals in the field, WVWC and WVBHPA are taking a vital step toward combating substance use disorders and supporting community health

For more information about the Certificate in Addiction Counseling program, visit www.wvwc.edu/cmhc About West Virginia Wesleyan College:

West Virginia Wesleyan College (WVWC) is a private, fouryear residential liberal arts and sciences college in Buckhannon, West Virginia. A tradition of excellence for more than 130 years, West Virginia Wesleyan is home to 14 Fulbright Scholars. The Princeton Review ranked Wesleyan as one of its 2025 Best Colleges in the Mid-Atlantic Region of the United States. U.S. News & World Report's 2025 Best College Rankings designated Wesleyan ninth in Best Value - Regional Universities (South). WVWC offers students nearly 60 majors and 40 minors; graduate programs in athletic training, business administration, creative writing, nursing and clinical mental health counseling; 20 NCAA Division II athletic programs; multiple performing arts groups; and more than 50 organizations. Founded in 1890, the College is closely affiliated with the United Methodist Church and abides by the Wesley doctrine that emphasizes service to others. For more information, visit www.wvwc.edu



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Country Roads, Time to Roam: Mon Towns Partnership Announces New Gravel and Bikepacking Route Project Across National Forest Region

Elkins, W.V., February 21, 2025 - The Mon Forest Towns Partnership (MFTP), a regional non-profit working to advance outdoor recreation and downtown development in twelve towns across eight West Virginia counties, has announced a new collaborative gravel and bikepacking project with Village to Village Trails, Bikepacking Roots, and MountainRides.

Following community conversations with local cyclists, the project aims to not only deliver over 30 day-ride routes and eight multi-day bikepacking itineraries but also provide support for businesses to help maximize the economic impact of recreation tourism. "The initial excitement around the launch of a new route network will immediately bring cyclists who will frequent a range of local businesses. Then popularity of these routes builds steadily year over year creating a snowball of economic impact," remarked Noelle Battle, Executive Director of Bikepacking Roots.

Once a niche sport, the impacts of today's gravel biking movement are being felt across the country after exploding in popularity in the mid-2010s, in part due to the success of events like the Mon's own Gravel Ride Up Spruce Knob (GRUSK),



a four-day festival held at West Virginia's highest peak. Travis Olson, owner of MountainRides and GRUSK organizer, noted, "Considering the amazing mountain biking events combined with the world-class gravel riding, I would estimate tens of thousands have visited the Mon for cycling-related events. As word gets out about this new route network, the Mon will be a popular



place for riders to come escape and explore."

With nearly a million acres of National Forest, over a dozen State Parks and Forests, 1600+ miles of forest roads, and no shortage of scenic views, the Mon Forest region has all the ingredients to become the next premier gravel biking destination. Bringing a wealth of experience to the project, David Landis, owner of Village-to-Village Trails, added, "The Monongahela is a natural playground for gravel bikers and bikepackers. With its extensive network of forest roads and long-distance rail trails, it offers seamless access to rugged backcountry adventures."

For the MFTP, however, this project is about more than revving WV's outdoor recreation engine. "It goes beyond just mapping out routes," Landis continued, "it's about building long-term partnerships. By collaborating closely with local communities, we're providing resources, marketing support, and strategic planning to ensure that the influx of adventure tourism translates into sustainable economic success for every Mon Forest Town throughout the network." Josh Nease, MFTP Executive Director, offered, "Since the earliest conversations between towns in 2017, our communities have expressed a strong desire to be more connected to both the forest and one another. Through this partnership, we have the opportunity to sustainably leverage existing outdoor assets to connect towns in new ways while sharing the area's unique history with an ever-

To share your thoughts and learn more about the partnership, follow @monforestgravel, submit recommendations at https:// forms.gle/1eHQoSUcnjy9Fmez8, and visit https://monforesttowns.com/gravel-bikepacking/ for a full schedule of MFTP's outreach events held across the region!





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